Task Force Meeting: 2/13/06 Agenda Item: #7

**From:** Carolyn Straub [mailto:castraub@earthlink.net]

Sent: Thursday, January 26, 2006 9:33 AM

**To:** mayoremail@sanjoseca.gov **Cc:** salifu.yakubu@sanjoseca.gov

**Subject:** To: Mayor Gonzales and San Jose City Council Members and Coyote Valley Task Force; Re:

Coyote Valley

Dear Mayor and Councilmembers and Coyote Valley Task Force,

We are tired of writing to you and being asked to do so by organizations. But we WILL continue to email and write to you, at the request of groups, such as the reputed Committee for Green Foothills because CGF is correct in all it undertakes with regard to Coyote Valley, and so is the Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society and the Sierra Club, Loma Prieta Chapter. We oppose Coyote Valley's development and frankly, to use a lesser word, consider it a "stupid" idea. We can think of several reasons why.

You should be doing your jobs; the United States today with its shady political arena in Washington, DC, seems to be reaching down into local politics. San Jose City Council - with its Coyote Valley Task Force that doesn't now seem to want to include environmental representatives as much as it has developers - seems right in line with the nation.

We can assume that the legacy of Mayor Gonzales will continue, placing money and influence where it thinks best and dealing behind the backs of San Jose residents.

We two do *not* plan to vote for the two council members (Cortez and Reed) and vice mayor who plan to run to replace the present mayor in June.

We are tired of Mayor Gonzales and the rest of city council - perhaps with the exception of District 7 rep Madison Nguyen who actually listens to her district - because we think you have developers in your pockets and that our interests as residents of San Jose are being ignored. Does all of San Benito County - who does not want a large city in Coyote Valley either - tell you they want it?

We rather like the rural atmosphere of what we have and not a Coyote Valley City - with its trash, sprawl and traffic.

And so:

We are demanding the following be observed, in league with what the Committee for Green Foothills (CGF) is asking of you:

## That you:

- Disclose the deals, if any, that you or your staff make regarding Coyote Valley, if behind closed doors, as demanded by the San Jose Mercury News editorial board.
- Fill the environmental position on the Task Force.
- Require full, one-for-one mitigation for the loss of farmland in Coyote Valley.

Carolyn Straub Steve McHenry 439 Chateau LaSalle Dr. San Jose, CA 95111